



**September 18, 2025 | 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | Meeting No. 277 | Location:** Remote

Please register [here](#) for meeting access with a unique link.

*Per RCW 42.30.030 public access is available at the agency office: 128 10th Ave. S.W., in Olympia. The Board meeting room is located on the 2nd floor. Please call (360) 709-4600 upon arrival for access — the lobby is locked.*

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|-------------------|---|--------------|
| <b>9:00 a.m.</b>  | <b>Call to Order</b>  | <b>Tab 1</b> |
|                   | Board Request for Review: Federal Policy and Budget Comparison  |              |
| <b>9:05 a.m.</b>  | <b>TAP Implementation Discussion (Action)</b>   | <b>Tab 2</b> |
|                   | Emily Persky, Workforce Board   |              |
|                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Update remaining strategic priority focus and work activities (youth and credentials)</li><li>• Review updates from August and prior meetings (job quality, system resilience, system integration, performance, industry)</li><li>• Informal polling and discussion: What to prioritize over the next 12 months and what to move forward for the next 12 months?</li><li>• Formal vote on what to advance over the next 12 months</li></ul> |              |
| <b>11:30 a.m.</b> | <b>Process Review: State Agency Decision Packages and TAP Alignment (Action)</b>  | <b>Tab 3</b> |
|                   | Nova Gattman, Workforce Board   |              |
| <b>12:00 p.m.</b> | <b>Adjourn</b>  |              |

Tab 1

## Federal Policy and Budget Comparison

**PRESENTED BY:** Eleni Papadakis, Workforce Board Executive Director

**CHECK ONE:**

☐ Action Item

☐ Possible Action

☒ Discussion Only

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**SUMMARY:**

This side-by-side comparison outlines several competing federal workforce policy and funding proposals: the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), A Stronger Workforce for America Act (ASWA), the Make America Skilled Again (MASA) block grant, and the FY26 House Appropriations proposal approved by the House Appropriations Committee on September 9, 2025.

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**BACKGROUND:**

Since the transition from the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA) to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (WIOA), state and local workforce boards have operated under WIOA's rules and regulations. Over the past two decades, federal funding for workforce programs has steadily declined and, more recently, remained stagnant under a series of congressional continuing resolutions.

In late 2023, the U.S. House introduced a Republican-led WIOA reauthorization proposal: A Stronger Workforce for America Act (ASWA). Although initially expected to advance through a December 2024 Continuing Resolution (CR), the bill was pulled to allow the Trump Administration to release its own plan.

In May 2025, the Administration proposed the Make America Skilled Again (MASA) block grant, which would replace WIOA, cut funding by roughly 24%, and eliminate most program rules to reduce administrative costs and provide states with broader spending flexibility. In line with the President's "Skinny Budget," the Department of Labor, Department of Education and Department of Commerce provided a report in response to the President's proposal, eliminating WIOA Title II (Adult Education), the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP), and Job Corps.

Congressional leaders diverged. In July 2025, the Senate Appropriations Committee rejected the Skinny Budget and instead supported keeping WIOA intact, including a modest increase for the WIOA Dislocated Worker program. In contrast, following the August recess, the House introduced its own FY26 appropriations proposal, cutting Title I-B WIOA programs by

about 33%. The House plan mirrored the Administration in some areas (eliminating SCSEP, Adult Education, and WIOA Youth; and potentially WIOA Adult) but differed in others (retaining Job Corps at reduced capacity while keeping most rules unchanged).

Workforce Board staff have prepared a side-by-side comparison of these proposals to help Board members understand the differences in program design, funding levels, and potential impacts. At this stage, the outcome of WIOA reauthorization remains uncertain: it could align with one of these proposals, merge elements of several, or take an entirely new direction.

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**STAFF GUIDANCE & RECOMMENDATION:**

Discussion only.

Side-by-Side: WIOA, FY26 Senate & House Appropriations, ASWA, MASA

Dimension	WIOA (Current Law)	Senate Draft (FY 2026 LHHS)	House Draft (FY 2026 LHHS)	MASA	ASWA
Source	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Public Law 119-4: Section 1112</a></li><li><a href="#">CR House Appropriations Summary</a></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">NSC Blog</a></li><li><a href="#">Senate Appropriations</a></li><li><a href="#">Work Shift Side-by-Side</a></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Full House Committee Press Release 9.9.25</a></li><li><a href="#">Full Committee Draft 9.9.25 Work Shift Side-by-Side</a></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">JFF Fact Sheet</a></li><li><a href="#">DOL Report</a></li><li><a href="#">FY26 Congressional Budget Justification</a></li></ul>	<a href="#">NGA PDF</a>
Structure	Multiple formula/competitive lines (Adult, Youth, DW; WP; etc.)	Multiple formula/competitive lines (Adult, Youth, DW; WP; etc.)	Continues separate allocations	Consolidates 11 programs into a single block grant. Most (if not all) rules will disappear	Preserves WIOA lines; replaces ISY/OSY distinction in WIOA Youth to just “Opportunity Youth”
Training Spend Requirements	No federally mandated percentage	No federally mandated percentage	No training floor; no apprenticeship set-aside mentioned	No training floor; 10% set-aside for Registered Apprenticeship	50% training floor for Adult & DW (drops to 42% if supportive services used)
Governance & State Flexibilities	Standard Governor’s Reserve (15%)	Standard Governor’s Reserve (15%)	Maintains existing governance structure; no significant new flexibilities or set-asides reported	One block grant to states; fewer program-specific levers; RA set-aside required	Adds optional 10% set-aside with match; allows redesignation, performance-based reallocation
WDQI Funding	Stand-alone appropriation (~\$6M) – exists as a competitive grant	Stand-alone appropriation (~\$6M) – exists as a competitive grant	Maintains current WIOA appropriation as a competitive grant structure	Folded into MASA, no separate funding	Codifies WDQI; reserves 5–10% of DW National Reserve (includes NDWG) to fund it
Programmatic Preservation/Elimination	All programs intact	All programs intact	Eliminates multiple specific programs (AEFLA, WIOA Youth, MSFW, REO, SCSEP) & significant decrease in Job Corps	Eliminates multiple specific programs (AEFLA, YouthBuild, NFJP, REO, WDQI, Job Corps, SCSEP)	Programs maintained; flexible delivery piloting allowed
Total Workforce Appropriations	Approximately \$3.89B for core WIOA formula grants	About \$3.98B for core WIOA formula grants: small cuts to Adult, SCSEP, & Reentry are offset by increase in Demonstration Projects	Program eliminations and funding decreases ≈ \$2.594B (approximately 33% cut vs current)	Single block MASA grant ≈ \$2.97B (approximately 24% cut vs current)	Slight increase via set-asides/pilots; specifics depend on appropriations

Acronym Key:

Acronym	Full Name	Acronym	Full Name	Acronym	Full Name
AEFLA	Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (WIOA Title II)	ISY/OSY	In-School Youth/Out-of-School Youth	RA	Registered Apprenticeship
ASWA	A Stronger Workforce for America Act (H.R. 6655)	LHHS	Labor, Health and Human Services, Education	REO	Re-Entry Employment Opportunities
CR	Continuing Resolution	MASA	Make America Skilled Again	SCSEP	Senior Community Service Employment Program
CTE	Career and Technical Education (Perkins V)	MSFW	Migrant Seasonal Farmworker	WDQI	Workforce Data Quality Initiative
DW	Dislocated Worker	NDWG	National Dislocated Worker Grant	WIOA	Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act
FY	Fiscal Year	NFJP	National Farmworker Jobs Program	WP	Wagner Peyser (WIOA Title III)

**Note:** Figures reflect the latest House (9/9/25) and Senate (7/31/25) Appropriations Committee actions and may change as bills advance.

\*\$712M rescission from FY25 Employment and Training Administration programs ([Public Law 119-4, Section 1112](#)) remains unclear. [House Democratic Summary](#) states that the draft bill from the House Appropriations Committee could indicate the elimination of the WIOA Adult Program. Clarification from Committee Staff and DOL is pending.

\*\*Vocational Rehab amounts are *pre-sequestration*.

Side-by-Side: WIOA, FY26 Senate & House Appropriations, ASWA, MASA

Program Area (Nationwide)	FY25 Baseline	Senate Draft (FY26)	% Change vs FY25	House Draft (FY26)	% Change vs FY25	MASA (FY26 Request)	% Change vs FY25
Source	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Public Law 119-4: Section 1112</a></li><li><a href="#">CR House Appropriations Summary</a></li><li><a href="#">FY 2025 Congressional Justification Rehabilitation Services</a></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">NSC Blog Senate Appropriations</a></li><li><a href="#">Work Shift Side-by-Side</a></li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Full Committee Draft 9.9.25</a></li><li><a href="#">Work Shift Side-by-Side</a></li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">FY26 Congressional Budget Justification</a></li><li><a href="#">FY 2026 Congressional Justification Rehabilitation Services</a></li></ul>	
WIOA Core (Adult, Youth, DW)	\$3.898B	\$3.977B	+2%	\$2.594B +\$712M Rescission*	-33%	\$2.965B	-24%
Wagner-Peyser ES	\$675M	\$675M	0%	\$675M	0%	\$17.5M	-97%
Vocational Rehab	\$4.253B**	\$4.647B**	+9%	\$4.504B**	+6%	4.504B**	+6%
AEFLA	\$715M	\$715M	0%	\$0	-100%	\$0	-100%

Enacted in H.R. 1 – Workforce Pell Grants:

Expands Pell to short-term (≥150 hr/8 wk) in-demand programs with performance standards. Viewed as a substitute for WIOA ITAs, helping justify House-proposed WIOA cuts and shifting WIOA’s role toward support services and system alignment. Rulemaking is projected to begin later this calendar year.

Acronym Key:

Acronym	Full Name	Acronym	Full Name	Acronym	Full Name
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FY	Fiscal Year	NFJP	National Farmworker Jobs Program	WP	Wagner Peyser (WIOA Title III)

**Note:** Figures reflect the latest House (9/9/25) and Senate (7/31/25) Appropriations Committee actions and may change as bills advance.

\*\$712M rescission from FY25 Employment and Training Administration programs ([Public Law 119-4, Section 1112](#)) remains unclear. [House Democratic Summary](#) states that the draft bill from the House Appropriations Committee could indicate the elimination of the WIOA Adult Program. Clarification from Committee Staff and DOL is pending.

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### **House Draft Bill Spotlight — Additional Workforce & Education Highlights**

- **CTE / Perkins V:** +\$25 million increase, boosting State Grant to \$1.465 billion.
- **Workforce Development Programs:** The available text and summaries do not fully specify which programs are cut or consolidated. Lines such as WDQI, Apprenticeships, and YouthBuild are identifiable, but details for other programs are inconsistent across sources and interpretations, leaving some appropriations uncertain.
- **Other programmatic shifts** inside the draft House Bill:
  - Renaming AmeriCorps to “America First Corps”.
  - Renaming Workforce Pell Grant to “Trump Grants”.
  - Over 100 programs were eliminated or reduced beyond DOL programs, but specifics (especially in workforce) are not clarified.

### **Congressional Next Steps:**

As of September 9, 2025, both the Senate and House Appropriations Committees have advanced their FY26 LHHS bills.

1. Each **bill must now move to the House or Senate floor:**
  - a. No floor dates have been announced.
  - b. Amendments remain possible: the House process is tightly controlled by the Rules Committee, while the Senate allows more open debate.
  - c. Informal conversations between House and Senate leaders often begin before the formal conference stage to ease reconciliation.
2. After floor passage in both chambers, a **conference committee will reconcile differences** and produce a final bill.
3. With less than two weeks left in the fiscal year, **a continuing resolution (CR) is increasingly likely** to maintain funding and prevent a shutdown.

**Note:** Figures reflect the latest House (9/9/25) and Senate (7/31/25) Appropriations Committee actions and may change as bills advance.

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## Source List

### 1. **NGA (National Governors Association)** – *ASWA Provisions Most Relevant to Governors*

Outlines the 50% training floor, governor’s optional 10% set-aside (with match), WDQI set-aside from the DW Reserve, Youth Apprenticeship Readiness grants, and H-1B ITA supplements.

 [NGA PDF](#)

### 2. **JFF (Jobs for the Future)** – *Fact Sheet: Trump Administration’s FY26 Budget Request*

Breaks down MASA proposal: \$2.9B single block grant, elimination of 11 workforce programs, 10% Registered Apprenticeship requirement, ~24% cut vs current, elimination of Job Corps/SCSEP/WANTO.

 [JFF Fact Sheet](#)

### 3. **NSC (National Skills Coalition)** – *FY26 Senate LHHS Appropriations Summary*

Provides line-item funding tables for FY24 enacted, FY25 CR, President’s FY26 request, and Senate mark-up. Used for WIOA Adult, Youth, DW, Wagner-Peyser, YouthBuild, NFJP, REO, WDQI, etc.

 [NSC Blog](#)

### 4. **America’s Talent Strategy: Building The Workforce for the Golden Age**

Comprehensive Worker Investment and Development Strategy provided by Department of Labor, Department of Education, and Department of Commerce in response to [Executive Order 14278](#) of April 23, 2025. These are the strategic initiatives tied to MASA.

 [America’s Talent Strategy: Building the Workforce for the Golden Age](#)

### 5. **FY26 Congressional Budget Justification ETA**

Provides the section-specific, line-item details supporting the DOL budget request, following the priorities outlined in the President’s overall budget.

 [FY26 Congressional Budget Justification](#)

**Note:** Figures reflect the latest House (9/9/25) and Senate (7/31/25) Appropriations Committee actions and may change as bills advance.

\*\$712M rescission from FY25 Employment and Training Administration programs ([Public Law 119-4, Section 1112](#)) remains unclear. [House Democratic Summary](#) states that the draft bill from the House Appropriations Committee could indicate the elimination of the WIOA Adult Program. Clarification from Committee Staff and DOL is pending.

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6. **Breakdown of DOL Funding for Workforce Training and Employment Services**

Provides a breakdown of funding for Core WIOA Title I and III programs, Job Corps and SCSEP, comparing FY25 levels to the [FY26 House Appropriations Bill](#), [FY26 Senate Appropriations Bill](#), and the [President's Skinny Budget \(MASA\)](#).

👉 [Work Shift Side-by-Side](#)

7. **House Appropriations Committee – Republican Summary of FY26 LHHS Draft Bill (September 2025)**

Lists topline \$184.5B (7% below FY25), elimination of 100+ programs, “five duplicative job training programs” line, renaming AmeriCorps, creation of “Make America Healthy Again” (MAHA) initiative.

👉 [Committee Approves FY26 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act | House Committee on Appropriations - Republicans](#)

8. **FY26 House LHHS Full Committee Draft Text**

The Full Committee mark cuts the WIOA formula account to ~\$2.59B (including possible rescissions), sharply lowers or eliminates funding perhaps for Adult and certainly for Youth programs, maintains Apprenticeships and WDQI, and shifts some national reserve/demos to technical assistance.

👉 File reviewed: [Full Committee Draft 9.9.25](#)

9. **Senate Appropriations Committee – Bill Summary (July 31, 2025)**

Confirms Senate mark-up for workforce lines (Adult \$875.6M, DW \$1.095B, Youth \$948.1M, WP \$653.6M, YouthBuild \$105M, NFJP \$97.4M, REO \$110M, WDQI \$6M).

👉 [Senate Appropriations Majority Release](#)

**Note:** Figures reflect the latest House (9/9/25) and Senate (7/31/25) Appropriations Committee actions and may change as bills advance.

\*\$712M rescission from FY25 Employment and Training Administration programs ([Public Law 119-4, Section 1112](#)) remains unclear. [House Democratic Summary](#) states that the draft bill from the House Appropriations Committee could indicate the elimination of the WIOA Adult Program. Clarification from Committee Staff and DOL is pending.

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# Tab 2

## TAP Implementation Discussion

**PRESENTED BY:** Emily Persky, Workforce Board

**CHECK ONE:**

☒ Action Item

☐ Possible Action

☐ Discussion Only

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**SUMMARY:**

This is a continuation of the Board's discussion and decision-making on TAP at the [Aug. 20 meeting](#). Staff have updated slides to reflect the Board's changes so far. At this meeting, the Board will:

- Update focus and work activities for the remaining strategic priorities (youth, credentials).
- Review updates the Board made on Aug. 20 (job quality, system resilience, system integration, performance, industry).
- Take part in informal polling and discussion to prioritize the updated work and select what should move forward over the next 12 months.
- Vote on what to advance over the next 12 months.

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**BACKGROUND:**

TAP is Washington's comprehensive strategic workforce development plan, [Talent and Prosperity for All](#). The state is currently 14 months into the implementation period, which began in July 2024.

At the Aug. 20 Board meeting, members began refining the proposed focus and work activities for the next phase of TAP implementation. This is a continuation of that discussion and will result in a decision on which strategic priorities to advance over the next 12 months. The Board's decision will guide development of the implementation workplan, which staff will present in October, and will also shape the Board's legislative agenda.

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**STAFF GUIDANCE & RECOMMENDATION:**

Discussion, informal polling and checks for consensus ending with a formal vote.

# Talent and Prosperity for All (TAP)

## Washington State Strategic Plan for Workforce Development

### Vision

Every Washington community is thriving, inclusive, and economically resilient.

### Mission

We champion strategies and align organizations and stakeholders statewide to enable the future of work, which ensures a successful business climate and livable-wage jobs for all.

### TAP Guiding Principles

- Close economic disparities for marginalized populations.
- Deliver comprehensive support for individuals with barriers to employment.
- Provide systemwide performance metrics and transparent accountability.

### Strategic Priorities

#### System

Integrate system services, data, accountability, and resources across system partners.

#### Industry

Support business competitiveness by aligning workforce and economic development.

#### Youth

Improve opportunities for young people to transition to an economically successful adulthood.

#### Credentialing

Explore credential transparency and expansion to improve equitable access, mobility, and long-term economic success.

#### Job Quality

Develop a job quality framework to guide decisions and key investments in the delivery of business services.

### What is Talent and Prosperity for All?

TAP is Washington's four-year strategy for a strong and successful workforce development system. About \$1.4 billion annually in state and federal dollars supports a wide range of employment, education, training, and related services to help workers find good jobs and provide employers with skilled workers to stay competitive.

The plan includes feedback from stakeholders and partners from across the state including business and labor, workers and job seekers, students and teachers, advocates and community members of all demographics.

### Participating State and Local Agencies

Workforce Training and Education  
Coordinating Board

Employment Security Department  
Department of Social and Health Services

State Board for Community and  
Technical Colleges

Office of the Superintendent  
of Public Instruction

Department of Commerce

Department of Corrections

Department of Veterans Affairs

Department of Services for the Blind

Department of Labor and Industries

12 local Workforce Development Boards



[wtb.wa.gov](http://wtb.wa.gov)

# Tab 3

## State Agency Decision Packages and TAP Alignment

**PRESENTED BY:** Nova Gattman, Workforce Board

**CHECK ONE:**

☒ Action Item

☐ Possible Action

☐ Discussion Only

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**SUMMARY:**

The Board will be asked to approve a process to review agency budget submissions from workforce agencies for alignment with the state strategic plan, Talent and Prosperity for All (TAP). This is a [requirement in state law](#) to provide information to the Governor and Legislature on items that are in alignment with the state's workforce plan. A task team has developed a scoring rubric for agencies to highlight requests that will have the most impact advancing the plan's guiding principles and strategic priorities.

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**BACKGROUND:**

The Workforce Board has a statutory responsibility to advocate on behalf of the state's workforce system. This is a unique role that allows the Board to advocate for system needs across the workforce system. State statute directs the Board to review budget requests (formally called decision packages) of operating agencies in the workforce training system for alignment with TAP and communicate that information to policymakers. Board staff have worked with a task team to develop criteria for assessing TAP Plan alignment. Board members will be asked to review and approve a scoring rubric for that process.

**Staff Note:** *At the time of this packet development, the rubric was currently awaiting final review from the task team. This will be submitted to the Board by close of business Sept. 15.*

Once the process has been approved, Board staff will reach out to state workforce agencies to submit their aligned decision packages using the approved rubric. The task team will review the highest scoring items and provide a draft list to the Board for consideration. Board members will have the opportunity to review alignment recommendations ahead of the Oct. 7 meeting and approve the final list to submit to policymakers.

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**STAFF GUIDANCE & RECOMMENDATION:**

The Board will be asked to approve the recommended process and rubric. This will enable a timely review of workforce agency budget submissions that align with the TAP Plan to present to the Board at the Oct. 7 meeting.